House File 2418 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE 2418

BY COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC

GROWTH/REBUILD IOWA

(SUCCESSOR TO HSB 591)

A BILL FOR

- 1 An Act relating to economic development and the use of
- 2 funds by affecting programs, tax incentives, and project
- 3 completion and other assistance administered by the economic
- 4 development authority, by diverting withholding tax payments
- 5 for such programs, incentives, and assistance, by abolishing
- 6 the film tax credit program, by replacing references to the
- 7 economic development fund and financial assistance program,
- 8 and by providing spending authority, by providing for
- 9 properly related matters, and including effective date and
- 10 retroactive and other applicability provisions.
- 11 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 DIVISION I

- 2 HIGH QUALITY JOBS PROGRAM AND RELATED ASSISTANCE AND PROGRAMS
- 3 Section 1. Section 15.327, subsections 2, 5, 7, 8, 10, 12,
- 4 and 13, Code Supplement 2011, are amended to read as follows:
- 5 2. "Benefit" has the same meaning as defined in section
- 6 15G.101 means nonwage compensation provided to an employee.
- 7 Benefits typically include medical and dental insurance
- 8 plans, pension, retirement, and profit-sharing plans, child
- 9 care services, life insurance coverage, vision insurance
- 10 coverage, disability insurance coverage, and any other nonwage
- 11 compensation as determined by the board.
- 12 5. "Created job" has the same meaning as defined in section
- 13 15G.101 means a new, permanent, full-time equivalent position
- 14 added to a business's payroll in excess of the business's base
- 15 employment level.
- 16 7. "Fiscal impact ratio" has the same meaning as defined
- 17 in section 15G.101 means a ratio calculated by estimating the
- 18 amount of taxes to be received from a business by the state
- 19 and dividing the estimate by the estimated cost to the state
- 20 of providing certain project completion assistance and tax
- 21 incentives to the business, reflecting a ten-year period and
- 22 expressed in terms of current dollars. For purposes of the
- 23 program, "fiscal impact ratio" does not include taxes received
- 24 by political subdivisions.
- 25 8. "Maintenance period completion date" has the same meaning
- 26 as defined in section 15G.101 means the date on which the
- 27 maintenance period ends.
- 28 10. "Project completion date" has the same meaning as
- 29 defined in section 15G.101 means the date by which a recipient
- 30 of project completion assistance has agreed to meet all the
- 31 terms and obligations contained in an agreement with the
- 32 authority.
- 33 12. "Qualifying wage threshold" has the same meaning as
- 34 defined in section 15G.101 means the laborshed wage for an
- 35 eligible business.

- 1 13. "Retained job" has the same meaning as defined in
- 2 section 15G.101 means a full-time equivalent position, in
- 3 existence at the time an employer applies for financial
- 4 assistance which remains continuously filled and which is at
- 5 risk of elimination if the project for which the employer is
- 6 seeking assistance does not proceed.
- 7 Sec. 2. Section 15.327, Code Supplement 2011, is amended by
- 8 adding the following new subsections:
- 9 NEW SUBSECTION. 1A. "Base employment level" means the
- 10 number of full-time equivalent positions at a business,
- 11 as established by the authority and a business using the
- 12 business's payroll records, as of the date a business applies
- 13 for incentives or project completion assistance under the
- 14 program.
- 15 NEW SUBSECTION. 2A. "Business engaged in disaster recovery"
- 16 means a business located in an area declared a disaster area
- 17 by a federal official, that has sustained substantial physical
- 18 damage, that has closed as the result of a natural disaster,
- 19 and that has a plan for reopening that includes employing a
- 20 substantial number of the employees the business employed
- 21 before the natural disaster occurred.
- 22 NEW SUBSECTION. 6A. "Financial assistance" means assistance
- 23 provided only from the funds, rights, and assets legally
- 24 available to the authority pursuant to this chapter and
- 25 includes but is not limited to assistance in the form of
- 26 grants, loans, forgivable loans, and royalty payments.
- 27 NEW SUBSECTION. 7A. "Full-time equivalent position" means
- 28 a non-part-time position for the number of hours or days per
- 29 week considered to be full-time work for the kind of service
- 30 or work performed for an employer. Typically, a full-time
- 31 equivalent position requires two thousand eighty hours of work
- 32 in a calendar year, including all paid holidays, vacations,
- 33 sick time, and other paid leave.
- NEW SUBSECTION. 7B. "Fund" means a fund created pursuant
- 35 to section 15.335B.

- 1 NEW SUBSECTION. 7C. "Laborshed wage" means the wage level
- 2 represented by those wages within two standard deviations
- 3 from the mean wage within the laborshed area in which the
- 4 eligible business is located, as calculated by the authority,
- 5 by rule, using the most current covered wage and employment
- 6 data available from the department of workforce development for
- 7 the laborshed area.
- 8 NEW SUBSECTION. 7D. "Maintenance period" means the period
- 9 of time between the project completion date and the maintenance
- 10 period completion date.
- 11 NEW SUBSECTION. 8A. "Necessary physical infrastructure
- 12 project " means a project that creates necessary infrastructure
- 13 for economic success throughout Iowa, provides the foundation
- 14 for the creation of jobs, and involves the investment of
- 15 a substantial amount of capital. Physical infrastructure
- 16 projects include but are not limited to projects involving
- 17 any mode of transportation; public works and utilities such
- 18 as sewer, water, power, or telecommunications; physical
- 19 improvements that mitigate, prevent, or eliminate environmental
- 20 contamination; and other similar projects deemed to be physical
- 21 infrastructure by the authority.
- 22 NEW SUBSECTION. 9A. "Program support" means the services
- 23 necessary for the efficient administration of this part,
- 24 including the delivery of program services to eligible
- 25 businesses. "Program support" may include the administrative
- 26 costs of providing project assistance, conducting a statewide
- 27 laborshed study in coordination with the department of
- 28 workforce development, outreach to business and marketing of
- 29 programs, the procurement of technical assistance, and the
- 30 implementation of information technology.
- 31 NEW SUBSECTION. 9B. "Project completion assistance" means
- 32 financial assistance or technical assistance provided to
- 33 an eligible business in order to facilitate the start-up,
- 34 location, or expansion of the business in this state and
- 35 provided in an expedient manner to ensure the successful

- 1 completion of the start-up, location, or expansion project.
- 2 NEW SUBSECTION. 10A. "Project completion period" means the
- 3 period of time between the date financial assistance is awarded
- 4 and the project completion date.
- 5 Sec. 3. Section 15.329, subsection 1, unnumbered paragraph
- 6 1, Code Supplement 2011, is amended to read as follows:
- 7 To be eligible to receive incentives or assistance
- 8 under this part, a business shall meet all of the following
- 9 requirements:
- 10 Sec. 4. Section 15.329, subsection 1, paragraph b, Code
- 11 Supplement 2011, is amended to read as follows:
- 12 b. (1) The business has not closed or substantially
- 13 reduced operations in one area of this state and relocated
- 14 substantially the same operations in a community in another
- 15 area of this state shall not be solely relocating operations
- 16 from one area of the state while seeking state or local
- 17 incentives. A project that does not create new jobs or
- 18 involve a substantial amount of new capital investment shall
- 19 be presumed to be a relocation. In determining whether a
- 20 business is solely relocating operations for purposes of this
- 21 subparagraph, the authority shall consider a letter of support
- 22 for the move from the affected local community.
- 23 (2) The business shall not be in the process of reducing
- 24 operations in one community while simultaneously applying
- 25 for assistance under the program. For purposes of this
- 26 subparagraph, a reduction in operations within twelve months
- 27 before or after an application for assistance is submitted to
- 28 the authority shall be presumed to be a reduction in operations
- 29 while simultaneously applying for assistance under the program.
- 30 (3) This paragraph shall not be construed to prohibit
- 31 a business from expanding its operation in a community if
- 32 existing operations of a similar nature in this state are not
- 33 closed or substantially reduced.
- 34 Sec. 5. Section 15.329, subsection 1, paragraph c,
- 35 subparagraphs (1) and (2), Code Supplement 2011, are amended

- 1 to read as follows:
- 2 (1) If the business is creating jobs, the business shall
- 3 demonstrate that the jobs will pay at least one hundred percent
- 4 of the qualifying wage threshold at the start of the project
- 5 completion period, at least one hundred thirty twenty percent
- 6 of the qualifying wage threshold by the project completion
- 7 date, and at least one hundred thirty twenty percent of
- 8 the qualifying wage threshold until the maintenance period
- 9 completion date.
- 10 (2) If the business is retaining jobs, the business
- 11 shall demonstrate that the jobs retained will pay at least
- 12 one hundred thirty twenty percent of the qualifying wage
- 13 threshold throughout both the project completion period and the
- 14 maintenance period.
- 15 Sec. 6. Section 15.329, subsection 2, Code Supplement 2011,
- 16 is amended by striking the subsection.
- 17 Sec. 7. Section 15.330, Code Supplement 2011, is amended to
- 18 read as follows:
- 19 **15.330** Agreement.
- 20 A business shall enter into an agreement with the authority
- 21 specifying the requirements that must be met to confirm
- 22 eligibility pursuant to this part. The authority shall
- 23 consult with the community during negotiations relating to the
- 24 agreement. The agreement shall contain, at a minimum, the
- 25 following provisions:
- 26 1. A business that is approved to receive incentives
- 27 or assistance under this part shall, for the length of the
- 28 agreement, certify annually to the authority the compliance of
- 29 the business with the requirements of the agreement. If the
- 30 business receives a local property tax exemption, the business
- 31 shall also certify annually to the community the compliance of
- 32 the business with the requirements of the agreement.
- 33 2. The repayment of incentives or financial assistance
- 34 by the business if the business does not meet any of the
- 35 requirements of this part or the resulting agreement.

- 3. If a business that is approved to receive incentives
- 2 or assistance under this part experiences a layoff within the
- 3 state or closes any of its facilities within the state, the
- 4 authority shall have the discretion to reduce or eliminate
- 5 some or all of the incentives or assistance. If a business
- 6 has received incentives or assistance under this part and
- 7 experiences a layoff within the state or closes any of its
- 8 facilities within the state, the business may be subject to
- 9 repayment of all or a portion of the incentives or financial
- 10 assistance that it has received.
- 11 4. A project completion date, a maintenance period
- 12 completion date, the number of jobs to be created or retained,
- 13 or certain other terms and obligations described in section
- 14 15G.112, subsection 1, paragraph "d", as the authority
- 15 deems necessary in order to make the requirements in project
- 16 agreements uniform. The authority, with the approval of
- 17 the board, may adopt rules as necessary for making such
- 18 requirements uniform. Such rules shall be in compliance with
- 19 the provisions of this part and with the provisions of chapter
- 20 15G.
- 21 5. The amount and type of project completion assistance to
- 22 be provided under section 15.335B.
- 23 6. The amount of matching funds to be received by a business
- 24 from a city or county. The authority shall adopt by rule a
- 25 formula for determining the amount of matching funds required
- 26 under the program.
- 27 7. The business shall not have closed or substantially
- 28 reduced operations in one area of this state and relocated
- 29 substantially the same operations in a community in another
- 30 area of this state. However, this paragraph shall not be
- 31 construed to prohibit a business from expanding its operation
- 32 in a community if existing operations of a similar nature in
- 33 this state are not closed or substantially reduced.
- 34 8. The proposed project shall not negatively impact other
- 35 businesses in competition with the business being considered

- 1 for assistance. The authority shall make a good-faith effort
- 2 to identify existing Iowa businesses within an industry in
- 3 competition with the business being considered for incentives
- 4 or assistance. The authority shall make a good-faith effort
- 5 to determine the probability that the proposed incentives or
- 6 assistance will displace employees of the existing businesses.
- 7 In determining the impact on businesses in competition with the
- 8 business being considered for incentives or assistance, jobs
- 9 created or retained as a result of other jobs being displaced
- 10 elsewhere in the state shall not be considered direct jobs
- 11 created or retained.
- 9. A report submitted to the authority with its application
- 13 describing all violations of environmental law or worker
- 14 safety law within the last five years. If, upon review of the
- 15 application, the authority finds that a business has a record
- 16 of violations of the law, statutes, rules, or regulations that
- 17 tends to show a consistent pattern, the authority shall not
- 18 provide incentives or assistance to the business unless the
- 19 authority finds either that the violations did not seriously
- 20 affect public health, public safety, or the environment, or,
- 21 if such violations did seriously affect public health, public
- 22 safety, or the environment, that mitigating circumstances were
- 23 present.
- 24 10. That the business shall only employ individuals legally
- 25 authorized to work in this state. In addition to any and
- 26 all other applicable penalties provided by current law, all
- 27 or a portion of the incentives or assistance received under
- 28 this part by a business that is found to knowingly employ
- 29 individuals not legally authorized to work in this state is
- 30 subject to recapture by the authority or by the department of
- 31 revenue.
- 32 11. Any terms deemed necessary by the authority to effect
- 33 compliance with the eligibility requirements of section 15.329.
- 34 Sec. 8. NEW SECTION. 15.330A Maintenance of agreements.
- 35 l. An eligible business receiving incentives or assistance

- 1 under this part shall meet all terms and obligations in an
- 2 agreement by the project completion date, but the board may
- 3 for good cause extend the project completion date or otherwise
- 4 amend an agreement.
- 5 2. During the maintenance period an eligible business
- 6 receiving incentives or assistance under this part shall
- 7 continue to comply with the terms and obligations of an
- 8 agreement entered into pursuant to section 15.330.
- 9 3. The authority may enforce the terms of an agreement as
- 10 necessary and appropriate.
- 11 Sec. 9. NEW SECTION. 15.331 Withholding tax payment
- 12 diversion.
- 13 l. If the authority enters into an agreement pursuant to
- 14 this part, or pursuant to chapter 15E, division XVIII, for
- 15 any of the incentives or assistance provided under this part,
- 16 the authority and the eligible business may agree to credit a
- 17 portion of the payments required under section 422.16 to the
- 18 authority as provided in this section.
- 19 2. a. An eligible business entering into a withholding
- 20 agreement with the authority pursuant to this section shall
- 21 remit the total amount of withholding payments due pursuant to
- 22 section 422.16 to the department of revenue.
- 23 b. The department of revenue shall, beginning July 1 of each
- 24 fiscal year, quarterly deposit in a fund created pursuant to
- 25 section 15.106A an amount equal to two and one-half percent of
- 26 the gross wages paid by the eligible business to each employee
- 27 holding a created or retained job covered by an agreement
- 28 entered into pursuant to this part or chapter 15E, division
- 29 XVIII, until such deposits reach ten million dollars or until
- 30 June 30 of the fiscal year, whichever comes first. Moneys to
- 31 be deposited pursuant to this paragraph shall not be paid to
- 32 the authority until the correct amounts have been verified by
- 33 the department of revenue.
- 3. Withholding payments shall be deposited pursuant to this
- 35 section by the department of revenue for each employee holding

- 1 a created or retained job for the duration of the agreement
- 2 between the eligible business and the authority.
- 3 4. The authority and the eligible business shall provide
- 4 to the department of revenue any information necessary to
- 5 correctly process the diversion of withholding tax payments
- 6 pursuant to this section.
- 7 5. An employee holding a created or retained job shall
- 8 receive full credit for the amount withheld as provided in
- 9 section 422.16.
- 10 6. If a portion of the employee's gross wages are subject
- 11 to a withholding credit diversion under chapter 260E, chapter
- 12 260G, or section 403.19A, or a supplemental withholding credit
- 13 diversion under sections 15A.7 and 15E.197, when a withholding
- 14 credit diversion under this section is agreed to, then the
- 15 withholding payments shall be credited in the following order
- 16 of priority:
- 17 a. First, the withholding payments to be credited pursuant
- 18 to chapters 260E and 260G and sections 15A.7 and 15E.197.
- 19 b. Second, the withholding payments to be credited pursuant
- 20 to this section until the deposits reach the amount specified
- 21 in subsection 2.
- 22 c. Third, the withholding payments to be credited pursuant
- 23 to section 403.19A.
- 7. The authority, in conjunction with the department of
- 25 revenue, shall adopt rules for the implementation of this
- 26 section.
- 27 Sec. 10. Section 15.335A, subsection 1, unnumbered
- 28 paragraph 1, Code Supplement 2011, is amended to read as
- 29 follows:
- 30 Tax incentives are available to eligible businesses as
- 31 provided in this section. The incentives are based upon the
- 32 number of jobs created or retained that pay at least one
- 33 hundred thirty twenty percent of the qualifying wage threshold
- 34 as computed pursuant to section 15G.112, subsection 4, and
- 35 the amount of the qualifying investment made according to the

- 1 following schedule:
- 2 Sec. 11. Section 15.335A, subsection 2, paragraphs b, c,
- 3 f, and g, Code Supplement 2011, are amended by striking the
- 4 paragraphs.
- 5 Sec. 12. Section 15.335A, subsections 3 and 4, Code
- 6 Supplement 2011, are amended by striking the subsections.
- 7 Sec. 13. Section 15.335A, subsection 5, Code Supplement
- 8 2011, is amended to read as follows:
- 9 5. The authority shall negotiate the amount of tax
- 10 incentives provided to an applicant under the program
- 11 in accordance with this section and section 15G.112, as
- 12 applicable.
- 13 Sec. 14. NEW SECTION. 15.335B Assistance for certain
- 14 programs and projects.
- 15 1. a. Under the authority provided in section 15.106A,
- 16 there shall be established one or more funds within the state
- 17 treasury, under the control of the authority, to be used for
- 18 purposes of this section.
- 19 b. A fund established for purposes of this section shall
- 20 consist of the moneys deposited by the department of revenue
- 21 pursuant to section 15.331.
- 22 c. Interest or earnings on moneys deposited in a fund to be
- 23 used for the purposes of this section, and all repayments or
- 24 recaptures of the assistance provided under this section, shall
- 25 accrue to the authority and shall be used for purposes of this
- 26 section, notwithstanding section 12C.7. Moneys in a fund are
- 27 not subject to section 8.33.
- 28 2. a. Moneys deposited pursuant to subsection 1 shall be
- 29 allocated by the authority in appropriate amounts to be used
- 30 for the following purposes:
- 31 (1) For providing project completion assistance to eligible
- 32 businesses under this part and for program support of such
- 33 assistance.
- 34 (2) For providing economic development region financial
- 35 assistance under section 15E.232, subsections 1, 3, 4, 5, and

- 1 6.
- 2 (3) For providing financial assistance for business 3 accelerators pursuant to section 15E.351.
- 4 (4) For deposit in the innovation and commercialization
- 5 fund created pursuant to section 15.412.
- 6 (5) For providing financial assistance to businesses 7 engaged in disaster recovery.
- 8 (6) For providing financial assistance to Iowa's councils 9 of governments.
- 10 b. Each fiscal year, the authority shall estimate the 11 amount of revenues available for purposes of this section and
- 12 shall develop a budget appropriate for the expenditure of the
- 13 revenues available.
- 14 3. In providing assistance under this section, the
- 15 authority shall make a determination as to the amount and
- 16 type of assistance that is most appropriate for facilitating
- 17 the successful completion of an eligible business's project.
- 18 Before making such a determination, the authority shall do all
- 19 of the following:
- 20 a. Consider a business's eligibility for the tax incentives
- 21 available under section 15.335A and ensure that the amount of
- 22 assistance to be provided appropriately complements the amount
- 23 and type of tax incentives to be provided.
- 24 b. Consider the amount of private sector investment to be
- 25 leveraged by the project, including the eligible business's
- 26 equity investment, debt financing, and any venture capital or
- 27 foreign investment available, and make a good-faith effort to
- 28 provide only the amount of incentives and assistance necessary
- 29 to facilitate the project's successful completion.
- 30 c. Consider the amount and type of the local community
- 31 match. The authority may provide assistance to an early-stage
- 32 business in a high-growth industry regardless of the amount of
- 33 local match involved.
- 34 d. Calculate the fiscal impact ratio of the project and use
- 35 it to guide the provision of incentives and assistance under

- 1 this part.
- 2 e. Evaluate the quality of the project based on the factors
- 3 described in section 15.329, subsection 5, and any other
- 4 relevant factors.
- 5 f. Ensure that the combined amount of incentives and
- 6 assistance are appropriate to the size of the project, to
- 7 the value of the project, to the fiscal impact ratio of the
- 8 project, and to any other relevant factors.
- 9 4. Each eligible business receiving assistance under this
- 10 section shall enter into an agreement with the authority and
- 11 the agreement shall meet the requirements of sections 15.330
- 12 and 15.330A.
- 13 Sec. 15. <u>NEW SECTION</u>. **15.335C** Economically distressed
- 14 areas.
- 15 1. a. Notwithstanding section 15.329, subsection 1,
- 16 paragraph c, the authority may provide tax incentives or
- 17 project completion assistance under this part to an eligible
- 18 business paying less than one hundred twenty percent of the
- 19 qualifying wage threshold if that business is located in an
- 20 economically distressed area.
- 21 b. A business in an economically distressed area receiving
- 22 incentives or assistance pursuant to this section shall be
- 23 required to pay at least one hundred percent of the qualifying
- 24 wage threshold.
- 25 2. For purposes of this section, "economically distressed
- 26 area" means a county that ranks among the bottom twenty-five of
- 27 all Iowa counties, as measured by one of the following:
- 28 a. Average monthly unemployment level for the most recent
- 29 twelve-month period.
- 30 b. Average annualized unemployment level for the most recent
- 31 five-year period.
- Sec. 16. Section 15A.7, subsection 3, Code Supplement 2011,
- 33 is amended to read as follows:
- 3. That the employer shall agree to pay wages for the jobs
- 35 for which the credit is taken of at least the county wage or

- 1 the regional laborshed wage, as calculated by the authority
- 2 pursuant to section 15G.112 15.327, subsection 3, whichever
- 3 is lower 7C. Eligibility for the supplemental credit shall
- 4 be based on a one-time determination of starting wages by the
- 5 community college.
- 6 Sec. 17. Section 15E.193, subsection 1, paragraph b,
- 7 subparagraph (1), Code Supplement 2011, is amended to read as
- 8 follows:
- 9 (1) The business shall provide a sufficient package of
- 10 benefits to each employee holding a created or retained job.
- 11 For purposes of this paragraph, "created job" and "retained job"
- 12 have the same meaning as defined in section 15G.101 15.327.
- 13 Sec. 18. Section 15E.193, subsection 1, paragraphs c and d,
- 14 Code Supplement 2011, are amended to read as follows:
- 15 c. The business shall pay a wage that is at least ninety
- 16 percent of the qualifying wage threshold. For purposes of this
- 17 paragraph, "qualifying wage threshold" has the same meaning as
- 18 defined in section 15G.101 15.327.
- 19 d. Creates or retains at least ten full-time equivalent
- 20 positions and maintains them until the maintenance period
- 21 completion date. For purposes of this paragraph, "maintenance
- 22 period completion date" and "full-time equivalent position" have
- 23 the same meanings as defined in section 15G.101 15.327.
- 24 Sec. 19. Section 15E.231, unnumbered paragraph 1, Code
- 25 Supplement 2011, is amended to read as follows:
- 26 In order for an economic development region to receive
- 27 moneys under the economic development financial assistance
- 28 program established in section 15G.112 assistance pursuant to
- 29 section 15.335B, an economic development region's regional
- 30 development plan must be approved by the authority. An
- 31 economic development region shall consist of not less than
- 32 three counties, unless two contiquous counties have a combined
- 33 population of at least three hundred thousand based on the
- 34 most recent federal decennial census. An economic development
- 35 region shall establish a focused economic development effort

- 1 that shall include a regional development plan relating to one 2 or more of the following areas:
- 3 Sec. 20. Section 15E.232, subsections 1, 3, 4, 5, and 6,
- 4 Code Supplement 2011, are amended to read as follows:
- 5 l. An economic development region may apply for financial
- 6 assistance from the economic development a fund established
- 7 pursuant to section 15.335B to assist with the installation
- 8 of physical infrastructure needs including, but not limited
- 9 to, horizontal infrastructure, water and sewer infrastructure,
- 10 and telecommunications infrastructure, related to the
- 11 development of fully served business and industrial sites by
- 12 one or more of the region's economic development partners
- 13 or for the installation of infrastructure related to a
- 14 new business location or expansion. In order to receive
- 15 financial assistance pursuant to this subsection, the economic
- 16 development region must demonstrate all of the following:
- 17 a. The ability to provide matching moneys on a basis of a
- 18 one dollar contribution of local matching moneys for every two
- 19 dollars received from the economic development fund.
- 20 b. The commitment of the specific business partner
- 21 including, but not limited to, a letter of intent defining a
- 22 capital commitment or a percentage of equity.
- 23 c. That all other funding alternatives have been exhausted.
- 24 3. An economic development region may apply for financial
- 25 assistance from the economic development a fund established
- 26 pursuant to section 15.335B to assist an existing business
- 27 threatened with closure due to a potential consolidation to an
- 28 out-of-state location. The economic development region may
- 29 apply for financial assistance from the economic development
- 30 fund for the purchase, rehabilitation, or marketing of a
- 31 building that has become available due to the closing of an
- 32 existing business due to a consolidation to an out-of-state
- 33 location. In order to receive financial assistance under this
- 34 subsection, an economic development region must demonstrate the
- 35 ability to provide local matching moneys on a basis of a one

- 1 dollar contribution of local moneys for every three dollars
- 2 received from the economic development fund.
- 3 4. An economic development region may apply for financial
- 4 assistance from the economic development a fund established
- 5 pursuant to section 15.335B to establish and operate an
- 6 entrepreneurial initiative. In order to receive financial
- 7 assistance under this subsection, an economic development
- 8 region must demonstrate the ability to provide local matching
- 9 moneys on a basis of a one dollar contribution of local moneys
- 10 for every two dollars received from the economic development
- 11 fund.
- 12 5. a. An economic development region may apply for
- 13 financial assistance from the economic development a fund
- 14 established pursuant to section 15.335B to establish and
- 15 operate a business succession assistance program for the
- 16 region.
- 17 b. In order to receive financial assistance under this
- 18 subsection, an economic development region must demonstrate
- 19 the ability to provide local matching moneys on a basis of a
- 20 one dollar contribution of local moneys for every two dollars
- 21 received from the economic development fund.
- 22 6. An economic development region may apply for financial
- 23 assistance from the economic development a fund established
- 24 pursuant to section 15.335B to implement economic development
- 25 initiatives that are either unique to the region or innovative
- 26 in design and implementation. In order to receive financial
- 27 assistance under this subsection, an economic development
- 28 region must demonstrate the ability to provide local matching
- 29 moneys on a one-to-one basis.
- 30 Sec. 21. Section 15E.351, subsection 1, Code Supplement
- 31 2011, is amended to read as follows:
- 32 1. The economic development authority shall establish and
- 33 administer a business accelerator program to provide financial
- 34 assistance for the establishment and operation of a business
- 35 accelerator for technology-based, value-added agricultural,

- 1 information solutions, alternative and renewable energy 2 including the alternative and renewable energy sectors listed 3 in section 476.42, subsection 1, paragraph "a", subparagraph 4 (1), or advanced manufacturing start-up businesses or for a 5 satellite of an existing business accelerator. The program 6 shall be designed to foster the accelerated growth of new 7 and existing businesses through the provision of technical 8 assistance. The economic development authority may provide 9 financial assistance under this section from moneys allocated 10 for regional financial assistance for business accelerators 11 pursuant to section 15G.111 section 15.335B, subsection 9 2. 12 Sec. 22. Section 159A.6B, subsection 2, Code Supplement 13 2011, is amended to read as follows: The office may execute contracts in order to provide 14 15 technical support and outreach services for purposes of 16 assisting and educating interested persons as provided in this 17 section. The office may also contract with a consultant to 18 provide part or all of these services. The office may require 19 that a person receiving assistance pursuant to this section 20 contribute up to fifty percent of the amount required to 21 support the costs of contracting with the consultant to provide 22 assistance to the person. The office shall assist the person 23 in completing any technical information required in order 24 to receive assistance by the economic development authority 25 pursuant to the value-added agriculture component of the 26 economic development financial assistance program established 27 pursuant to section 15G.112 section 15.335B. 28 Sec. 23. Section 266.19, Code Supplement 2011, is amended 29 to read as follows:
- 30 266.19 Renewable fuel assistance.
- 31 The university shall cooperate in assisting renewable fuel
- 32 production facilities supporting livestock operations managed
- 33 by persons receiving assistance pursuant to the value-added
- 34 agriculture component of the economic development financial
- 35 assistance program established in section 15G.112 section

- 1 15.335B.
- 2 Sec. 24. Section 455B.104, subsection 2, Code Supplement
- 3 2011, is amended to read as follows:
- 4 2. The department shall assist persons applying for
- 5 assistance to establish and operate renewable fuel production
- 6 facilities pursuant to the value-added agriculture component
- 7 of the economic development financial assistance program
- 8 established in section 15G.112 section 15.335B.
- 9 Sec. 25. Section 455B.433, Code Supplement 2011, is amended
- 10 to read as follows:
- 11 455B.433 Physical infrastructure assistance funding —
- 12 liability.
- 13 l. The department of natural resources shall work in
- 14 conjunction with the economic development authority to identify
- 15 environmentally contaminated sites which qualify for the
- 16 infrastructure component of the economic development financial
- 17 assistance program established in section 15G.112 assistance
- 18 under section 15.335B as necessary physical infrastructure
- 19 projects. The department shall provide an assessment of the
- 20 site and shall provide any emergency response activities which
- 21 the department deems necessary. The department may take any
- 22 further action, including remediation of the site, that the
- 23 department deems to be appropriate and which promotes the
- 24 purposes of the necessary physical infrastructure component
- 25 project.
- 26 2. The department shall be reimbursed from the economic
- 27 development fund created in section 15G.111 by the economic
- 28 development authority for any costs incurred pursuant to this
- 29 section.
- 30 3. A person shall not have standing pursuant to section
- 31 455B.111 to commence a citizen suit which is based upon
- 32 property that is part of the infrastructure component of the
- 33 economic development financial assistance program established
- 34 in section 15G.112 receiving assistance pursuant to section
- 35 15.335B as a necessary physical infrastructure project.

- 1 Sec. 26. RULES. The economic development authority shall
- 2 adopt rules for the implementation of this division of this
- 3 Act.
- 4 Sec. 27. EFFECTIVE UPON ENACTMENT. The following provision
- 5 or provisions of this division of this Act, being deemed of
- 6 immediate importance, take effect upon enactment:
- 7 l. The section of this division of this Act enacting section
- 8 15.331.
- 9 Sec. 28. APPLICABILITY. The following provision or
- 10 provisions of this division of this Act apply to awards of
- 11 incentives or assistance made pursuant to the high quality jobs
- 12 program or the enterprise zones program on or after the date
- 13 of enactment:
- 14 l. The section of this Act amending section 15.331.
- 15 DIVISION II
- 16 TARGETED INDUSTRIES PROGRAM
- 17 Sec. 29. Section 15.102, subsection 11, Code Supplement
- 18 2011, is amended to read as follows:
- 19 11. "Targeted industries" means the same as defined
- 20 in section 15.411, subsection 1 industries of advanced
- 21 manufacturing, biosciences, and information technology.
- Sec. 30. Section 15.106B, subsection 2, paragraph d,
- 23 subparagraph (1), Code Supplement 2011, is amended by adding
- 24 the following new subparagraph division:
- 25 NEW SUBPARAGRAPH DIVISION. (g) Services related to
- 26 outreach and assistance to businesses for small business
- 27 innovation research and technology transfer pursuant to section
- 28 15.411, subsection 5.
- 29 Sec. 31. Section 15.411, Code Supplement 2011, is amended
- 30 to read as follows:
- 31 15.411 Targeted industries Innovative business development —
- 32 internships technical and financial assistance.
- 33 1. As used in this part, unless the context otherwise
- 34 requires:
- 35 a. "Innovative business" means the same as defined in

- 1 section 15E.52.
- 2 a. b. "Internship" means temporary employment of a student
- 3 that focuses on providing the student with work experience in
- 4 the student's field of study.
- 5 b. "Targeted industries" means the industries of advanced
- 6 manufacturing, biosciences, and information technology.
- 7 2. The authority shall, upon board approval, may contract
- 8 with service providers on a case-by-case basis for services
- 9 related to statewide commercialization development in the
- 10 targeted industries of innovative businesses. Services
- 11 provided shall include all of the following:
- 12 a. Assistance provided directly to businesses by experienced
- 13 serial entrepreneurs for all of the following activities:
- 14 (1) Business plan development.
- 15 (2) Due diligence.
- 16 (3) Market assessments.
- 17 (4) Technology assessments.
- 18 (5) Other planning activities.
- 19 b. Operation and coordination of various available
- 20 competitive seed and prototype development funds.
- 21 c. Connecting businesses to private angel investors and the
- 22 venture capital community.
- 23 d. Assistance in obtaining access to an experienced pool
- 24 of managers and operations talent that can staff, mentor, or
- 25 advise start-up enterprises.
- 26 e. Support and advice for accessing sources of early stage
- 27 financing.
- 28 3. The authority shall establish and administer a program
- 29 to provide financial and technical assistance to encourage
- 30 prototype and concept development activities by innovative
- 31 businesses that have a clear potential to lead to commercially
- 32 viable products or services within a reasonable period of time
- 33 in the targeted industries. Financial assistance shall be
- 34 awarded on a per project basis upon board approval. The amount
- 35 of financial assistance available for a single project shall

1 not exceed one hundred fifty thousand dollars. In order to 2 receive financial assistance, an applicant must demonstrate 3 the ability to secure one dollar of nonstate moneys for every 4 two dollars received from the authority. For purposes of this 5 section, "financial assistance" means assistance provided only 6 from the funds, rights, and assets legally available to the 7 authority pursuant to this chapter and includes but is not 8 limited to assistance in the form of grants, loans, forgivable 9 loans, and royalty payments. 4. The authority shall, upon board approval, establish 10 11 and administer a program to provide financial assistance for 12 projects designed to encourage collaboration between commercial 13 users and developers of information technology in the state 14 for the purpose of commercializing existing software and 15 applications technologies. Financial assistance shall not 16 exceed one hundred thousand dollars per project. In order to 17 receive financial assistance, an applicant must demonstrate the 18 ability to secure two dollars of nonstate moneys for every one 19 dollar received from the authority. Financial assistance shall 20 be awarded to projects that will result in technologies being 21 developed as commercial products for sale by Iowa companies 22 rather than as custom applications for proprietary use by a 23 participating firm. 5. The authority shall, upon board approval, establish 25 and administer a program to provide financial assistance to 26 businesses or departments of businesses engaged in the delivery 27 of information technology services in the state for the purpose 28 of upgrading the high-level technical skills of existing 29 employees. The amount of financial assistance shall not exceed 30 twenty-five thousand dollars for any business site. In order 31 to receive financial assistance, an applicant must demonstrate 32 the ability to secure two dollars of nonstate moneys for every 33 one dollar received from the authority. 6. 4. The authority shall, upon board approval, establish 35 and administer a targeted industries an innovative businesses

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1 internship program for Iowa students. For purposes of this
 2 subsection, "Iowa student" means a student of an Iowa community
 3 college, private college, or institution of higher learning
 4 under the control of the state board of regents, or a student
 5 who graduated from high school in Iowa but now attends an
 6 institution of higher learning outside the state of Iowa.
 7 purpose of the program is to link Iowa students to small and
 8 medium sized Iowa firms in the targeted industries through
 9 internship opportunities. An Iowa employer may receive
10 financial assistance in an amount of one dollar for every
11 two dollars paid by the employer to an intern. The amount
12 of financial assistance shall not exceed three thousand one
13 hundred dollars for any single internship, or nine thousand
14 three hundred dollars for any single employer. In order to be
15 eligible to receive financial assistance under this subsection,
16 the employer must have five hundred or fewer employees and must
17 be engaged in a targeted industry an innovative business.
18 authority shall encourage youth who reside in economically
19 distressed areas, youth adjudicated to have committed a
20 delinquent act, and youth transitioning out of foster care to
21 participate in the targeted industries internship program.
22
      7. The economic development authority shall work with the
23 department of workforce development to create a statewide
24 supplier capacity and product database to assist the economic
25 development authority in linking suppliers to Iowa-based
26 companies. The economic development authority may procure
27 technical assistance for the creation of the database from a
28 third party through a request for proposals process.
29
      8. The technology commercialization committee created
30 pursuant to section 15.116 shall review all applications for
31 financial assistance and requests for proposals pursuant to
32 this section and make recommendations to the board.
      9. In each fiscal year, the authority may transfer
34 additional moneys that become available to the authority
35 from sources such as loan repayments or recaptures of awards
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- 1 from federal economic stimulus funds to the innovation
- 2 and commercialization development fund created in section
- 3 15.412, provided the authority spends those moneys for the
- 4 implementation of the recommendations included in the separate
- 5 consultant reports on bioscience, advanced manufacturing,
- 6 information technology, and entrepreneurship submitted to the
- 7 department in calendar years 2004, 2005, and 2006.
- 8 5. a. (1) The authority shall establish and administer
- 9 an outreach program for purposes of assisting businesses with
- 10 applications to the federal small business innovation research
- 11 and small business technology transfer programs.
- 12 (2) The goals of this assistance are to increase the number
- 13 of successful phase II small business innovation research grant
- 14 proposals in the state, increase the amount of such grant
- 15 funds awarded in the state, stimulate subsequent investment by
- 16 industry, venture capital, and other sources, and encourage
- 17 businesses to commercialize promising technologies.
- 18 b. (1) In administering the program, the authority may
- 19 provide technical and financial assistance to businesses.
- 20 Financial assistance provided pursuant to this subsection shall
- 21 not exceed twenty-five thousand dollars to any single business.
- 22 (2) The authority may require successful applicants to
- 23 repay the amount of financial assistance received, but shall
- 24 not require unsuccessful applicants to repay such assistance.
- 25 Any moneys repaid pursuant to this subsection may be used to
- 26 provide financial assistance to other applicants.
- 27 c. The authority may also provide financial assistance
- 28 for purposes of helping businesses meet the matching funds
- 29 requirements of the federal small business innovation research
- 30 and small business technology transfer programs.
- 31 d. The authority may contract with outside service providers
- 32 for assistance with the programs described in this subsection
- 33 or may delegate the functions to be performed under this
- 34 subsection to the corporation pursuant to section 15.106B.
- 35 10. The board shall adopt rules pursuant to chapter 17A

- 1 necessary for the administration of this section.
- 2 Sec. 32. Section 15.412, subsections 2 and 3, Code
- 3 Supplement 2011, are amended to read as follows:
- 4 2. Moneys in the fund are appropriated to the authority and,
- 5 with the approval of the board, shall be used to facilitate
- 6 agreements, enhance commercialization in the targeted
- 7 industries, and increase the availability of skilled workers
- 8 within the targeted industries in innovative businesses. Such
- 9 moneys shall not be used for the support of retail businesses,
- 10 health care businesses, or other businesses requiring a
- 11 professional license.
- 3. Moneys in the fund, with the approval of the board, may
- 13 also be used for the following purposes:
- 14 a. For assistance to entities providing student internship
- 15 opportunities.
- 16 b. For increasing career awareness training.
- 17 c. For recruiting management talent.
- 18 d. For assistance to entities engaged in prototype and
- 19 concept development activities.
- 20 e. c. For developing a statewide commercialization network.
- 21 f. For deploying and maintaining an Iowa entrepreneur
- 22 website.
- 23 g. For funding asset mapping and supply chain initiatives,
- 24 including for identifying methods of supporting lean
- 25 manufacturing practices or processes.
- 26 h. For information technology training.
- 27 i. For networking events to facilitate the transfer of
- 28 technology among researchers and industries.
- 29 j. For funding student competition programs.
- 30 k. For the purchase of advanced equipment and software
- 31 at Iowa community colleges in order to support training and
- 32 coursework related to the targeted industries.
- 33 Sec. 33. Section 15E.52, subsection 1, paragraph c, Code
- 34 Supplement 2011, is amended to read as follows:
- 35 c. "Innovative business" means a business applying novel

- 1 or original methods to the manufacture of a product or the
- 2 delivery of a service. "Innovative business" includes but
- 3 is not limited to a business engaged in a targeted industry
- 4 as defined in section 15.411 the industries of advanced
- 5 manufacturing, biosciences, and information technology.
- 6 DIVISION III
- 7 OTHER ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CHANGES
- 8 Sec. 34. Section 15.106A, subsection 1, paragraph o, Code
- 9 Supplement 2011, is amended to read as follows:
- 10 o. Establish one or more funds within the state treasury
- 11 under the control of the authority. Moneys deposited in or
- 12 accruing to such a fund are appropriated to the authority for
- 13 purposes of administering the economic development programs in
- 14 this chapter, chapter 15E, or such other programs as directed
- 15 by law. Notwithstanding section 8.33 or 12C.7, or any other
- 16 provision to the contrary, moneys invested by the treasurer
- 17 of state pursuant to this subsection shall not revert to the
- 18 general fund of the state and interest accrued on the moneys
- 19 shall be moneys of the authority and shall not be credited to
- 20 the general fund. The nonreversion of moneys allowed under
- 21 this paragraph does not apply to moneys appropriated to the
- 22 authority by the general assembly.
- 23 Sec. 35. REPEAL. Sections 15.103 and 15.104, Code
- 24 Supplement 2011, are repealed.
- 25 DIVISION IV
- 26 FILM TAX CREDIT PROGRAM
- 27 Sec. 36. Section 2.48, subsection 3, paragraph c,
- 28 subparagraph (5), Code 2011, is amended by striking the
- 29 subparagraph.
- 30 Sec. 37. Section 15.119, subsection 2, paragraph b, Code
- 31 Supplement 2011, is amended by striking the paragraph.
- 32 Sec. 38. Section 422.7, subsection 52, Code Supplement
- 33 2011, is amended by striking the subsection.
- 34 Sec. 39. Section 422.33, subsections 23 and 24, Code
- 35 Supplement 2011, are amended by striking the subsections.

- 1 Sec. 40. Section 422.35, subsection 23, Code Supplement
- 2 2011, is amended by striking the subsection.
- 3 Sec. 41. Section 422.60, subsections 10 and 11, Code
- 4 Supplement 2011, are amended by striking the subsections.
- 5 Sec. 42. Section 533.329, subsection 2, paragraphs f and g,
- 6 Code Supplement 2011, are amended by striking the paragraphs.
- 7 Sec. 43. REPEAL. Sections 15.391, 15.392, 422.11T,
- 8 422.11U, 432.12J, and 432.12K, Code 2011, are repealed.
- 9 Sec. 44. REPEAL. Section 15.393, Code Supplement 2011, is
- 10 repealed.
- 11 Sec. 45. EFFECTIVE UPON ENACTMENT. This division of this
- 12 Act, being deemed of immediate importance, takes effect upon
- 13 enactment.
- 14 Sec. 46. RETROACTIVE APPLICABILITY. This division of this
- 15 Act applies retroactively to January 1, 2012, for tax years
- 16 beginning on or after that date.
- 17 Sec. 47. APPLICABILITY. This division of this Act does not
- 18 apply to contracts or agreements entered into on or before the
- 19 effective date of this division of this Act.
- 20 EXPLANATION
- 21 This bill relates to economic development and the use of
- 22 funds by affecting programs, tax incentives, and project
- 23 completion and other assistance administered by the economic
- 24 development authority. The bill diverts withholding tax
- 25 payments for such programs, incentives, and assistance. The
- 26 bill provides general spending authority to the economic
- 27 development authority for funds established pursuant to Code
- 28 section 15.106A. The bill abolishes the film tax credit
- 29 program.
- 30 HIGH QUALITY JOBS PROGRAM. Division I relates to assistance
- 31 in the high quality jobs program and related assistance and
- 32 programs.
- 33 The bill amends Code chapter 15, part 13, to provide for
- 34 assistance when providing for incentives. The bill includes
- 35 amendments to definitions, which incorporate the language of

1 the definitions in Code chapter 15G, the economic development 2 fund and financial assistance program (formerly, the grow Iowa 3 values fund and program), which is repealed June 30, 2012, with 4 some modifications. The bill transfers the definitions of 5 "created job", "maintenance period completion date", "retained 6 job", "financial assistance", "full-time equivalent position", 7 "maintenance period", and "project completion period" from Code 8 section 15G.101 to Code section 15.327. The bill transfers the definitions of "benefit", "fiscal 10 impact ratio", "project completion date", "qualifying wage 11 threshold", and "base employment level" from Code section 12 15G.101 to Code section 15.327, with modifications. 13 changes the definition of "benefit" by providing that the 14 economic development board, rather than the authority, shall 15 determine any other nonwage compensation that is considered a 16 benefit. The bill changes the calculation of a "fiscal impact 17 ratio". The estimated taxes to be received by the state from a 18 business would be divided by the estimated cost to the state of 19 providing certain project completion assistance and incentives 20 to the business rather than dividing the estimated taxes by 21 the cost of providing financial incentives to the business. 22 The bill amends the definition of "project completion date" 23 to provide that the person may be a recipient of project 24 completion assistance rather than financial assistance. The 25 bill amends the definition of "qualifying wage threshold". 26 The bill provides that the qualifying wage threshold means 27 the "laborshed wage" as defined in the bill rather than the 28 county or regional wage. The bill provides that the "base 29 employment level" is calculated as of the date the business 30 applies for incentives or project completion assistance rather 31 than financial assistance. The bill also adds definitions for "business engaged in 33 disaster recovery", "fund", "laborshed wage", "necessary 34 physical infrastructure project", "program support", and 35 "project completion assistance" in Code section 15.327. The

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1 bill provides that a "business engaged in disaster recovery"
 2 means a business located in a federally declared disaster
 3 area that sustained substantial physical damage and closed
 4 as a result of the disaster, but has a plan for reopening
 5 that includes employing a substantial number of the employees
 6 the business employed before the natural disaster.
 7 provides that "fund" means a fund created pursuant to new Code
 8 section 15.335B. The bill provides that "laborshed wage" means
 9 the wage level represented by those wages within two standard
10 deviations from the mean wage within the laborshed area, as
11 calculated by the authority. The bill defines "necessary
12 physical infrastructure project" as a project creating
13 necessary infrastructure for economic success by providing
14 the foundation for job creation, and involving investment of
15 capital. The bill defines "program support" as the services
16 necessary for the efficient administration of the high quality
17 jobs program. The bill defines "project completion assistance"
18 as financial or technical assistance provided to an eligible
19 business to facilitate the start-up, location, or expansion of
20 the business.
21
      The bill strikes the definitions for "benefits", "county
22 wage", "qualifying wage threshold", and "regional wage" as used
23 in Code section 15.335A, as those definitions placed by the
24 bill in Code section 15.327 also apply to Code section 15.335A.
      The bill amends Code section 15.329 regarding qualifying
26 wage thresholds for eligible businesses. The current law
27 requires that any jobs created or retained pay at least
28 130 percent of the qualifying wage threshold at the project
29 completion date until the maintenance period completion
          The bill provides that a business eligible to receive
31 incentives or assistance for creating or retaining jobs must
32 pay at least 120 percent of the qualifying wage threshold
33 at the project completion date until the maintenance period
34 completion date. The bill also eliminates a credit against
35 the qualifying wage threshold for businesses that create or
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1 retain jobs with sufficient benefits packages. However, the

2 bill allows the authority to provide assistance to a business 3 paying less than 120 percent but at least 100 percent of the 4 qualifying wage threshold if the business is located in an 5 economically distressed area. An economically distressed 6 area is defined in the bill as a county that ranks among the 7 bottom 25 counties in Iowa based on either the average monthly 8 unemployment level for the most recent 12-month period, or 9 the average annualized unemployment level for the most recent 10 five-year period. The bill amends Code section 15.330 to include financial 11 12 assistance where the statutory language provides for 13 incentives. The bill also amends Code section 15.330 to 14 eliminate references to Code chapter 15G, the economic 15 development fund and financial assistance program, which is 16 repealed on June 30, 2012. The bill provides that an agreement between the business 17 18 and the authority that specifies the requirements to be met to 19 confirm eligibility must include the amount and type of project 20 completion assistance to be provided, the amount of matching 21 funds from a city or county, a provision that the business 22 shall not close or substantially reduce operations as those 23 terms are modified in the bill, a provision that the proposed 24 project shall not negatively impact other businesses in 25 competition with the business being considered for assistance, 26 a report submitted to the authority describing violations of 27 environmental law or worker safety law, a provision that the 28 business shall only employ individuals legally authorized to 29 work in the state, and any terms necessary to effect compliance 30 with the eligibility requirements of Code section 15.329. The bill adds a new Code section 15.330A regarding the 31 32 maintenance of agreements. The new Code section provides that 33 an eligible business that is receiving incentives or assistance 34 must meet the terms and obligations in the agreement by the 35 project completion date and the business must comply with the

- 1 agreement throughout the maintenance period. If the recipient
- 2 business experiences a layoff or closure within the state, the
- 3 authority is authorized to reduce or eliminate part or all of
- 4 the incentives or assistance. The business may also be subject
- 5 to repayment of the incentives and assistance. The bill allows
- $\ensuremath{\text{6}}$ the authority to enforce the terms of an agreement as necessary
- 7 and appropriate.
- 8 The bill eliminates the county wage or regional wage
- 9 calculations as a tool for determining whether to grant a
- 10 project-specific waiver. The bill also eliminates a provision
- 11 that prohibits the authority from approving more than \$3.6
- 12 million worth of investment tax credits for projects with
- 13 qualifying investments of less than \$1 million.
- 14 The bill provides that one or more funds shall be established
- 15 within the state treasury to be used for assistance under newly
- 16 created Code section 15.335B. One of the funds shall consist
- 17 of moneys deposited by the department of revenue pursuant to
- 18 a withholding tax diversion through new Code section 15.331.
- 19 Moneys deposited into the fund shall be used for project
- 20 completion assistance, economic development region financial
- 21 assistance, financial assistance for business accelerators, the
- 22 innovation and commercialization fund, financial assistance
- 23 to businesses engaged in disaster recovery, and financial
- 24 assistance to Iowa's councils of governments.
- 25 The bill provides that the authority shall estimate the
- 26 revenues available for project completion and shall develop
- 27 a budget for the expenditure of funds each fiscal year. In
- 28 providing assistance, the authority shall make determinations
- 29 as to the amount and type of assistance that is most
- 30 appropriate. Each eligible business that receives assistance
- 31 under Code section 15.335B must enter into an agreement with
- 32 the authority that meets the requirements of agreements under
- 33 the high quality jobs program pursuant to Code sections 15.330
- 34 and 15.330A.
- 35 The bill provides that the authority may enter into

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1 agreements with recipients of financial assistance under the
 2 high quality jobs program and the enterprise zones program that
 3 allow for the diversion of withholding tax payments pursuant
 4 to Code section 422.16 from the department of revenue to the
 5 authority. The diversion amount will be 2.5 percent of gross
 6 wages paid by eligible businesses to each employee considered
 7 to be holding a created or retained job. The bill provides
 8 that the authority may only deposit $10 million from this
 9 diversion each fiscal year. The bill establishes a priority
10 withholding order if the employee's wages are subject to
ll another withholding diversion. The bill provides that the
12 withholding diversion takes effect upon enactment and applies
13 to awards of incentives and assistance made under those
14 programs on or after the date of the bill's enactment.
      The bill removes references to the economic development
15
16 fund and financial assistance program and replaces it with the
17 assistance created by new Code section 15.335B.
      TARGETED INDUSTRIES PROGRAM.
                                    Division II relates to the
18
19 targeted industries program. The term "targeted industries"
20 in Code section 15.411 is replaced with "innovative business".
21 The bill no longer requires board approval for the authority
22 to contract with service providers for services related to
23 commercialization development. The bill removes the $150,000
24 limitation on financial assistance for a single project of
25 an innovative business. The bill removes the requirement
26 that the authority administer a program to provide financial
27 assistance for projects designed to encourage collaboration
28 between commercial users and developers of information
29 technology. The bill also removes the requirement the
30 authority establish and administer a program to provide
31 financial assistance to business or business departments
32 engaged in the delivery of information technology services
33 in the state.
                  The bill eliminates the requirement that the
34 authority and department of workforce development create a
35 statewide supplier capacity and product database. The bill
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- 1 provides that applications for financial assistance under the
- 2 innovative businesses program no longer require a review by
- 3 the technology commercialization committee. The bill removes
- 4 the transfer provisions relating to money received by the
- 5 authority as loan repayments or recaptures of federal economic
- 6 stimulus funds. The bill requires the authority to establish
- 7 and administer an outreach program to assist businesses with
- 8 applications to the federal small business innovation research
- 9 and small business technology transfer programs. However,
- 10 the authority may contract with outside service providers for
- 11 assistance with the program or may delegate the administration
- 12 of the program to the Iowa innovation corporation pursuant to
- 13 Code section 15.106B. The authority may provide technical
- 14 or financial assistance and may require that successful
- 15 applicants repay any financial assistance received. The
- 16 bill specifies that moneys appropriated to the innovation
- 17 and commercialization development fund shall not be used for
- 18 retail businesses, health care businesses, or other businesses
- 19 requiring a professional license. The bill also reduces the
- 20 number of purposes for which money in the innovation and
- 21 commercialization development fund may be used.
- 22 OTHER ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CHANGES. Division III of the
- 23 bill repeals Code sections 15.103 and 15.104, relating to the
- 24 economic development board, which was replaced by the economic
- 25 development authority board in Code section 15.105.
- 26 The bill provides spending authority for moneys deposited
- 27 in or accruing to funds established pursuant to Code section
- 28 15.106A for the purposes of administering economic development
- 29 programs in Code chapters 15 and 15E, or other programs as
- 30 directed by law.
- 31 FILM TAX CREDIT PROGRAM. Division IV repeals the film tax
- 32 credit program and the tax credits provided under that program.
- 33 The bill makes changes corresponding to the repeal of the
- 34 program and the related tax credits.